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LETTER DATED 18 AUGUST 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to repeat the information I transmitted to you by my letter of 14 August 1998 (S/1998/758) stating that the forces of the Rwandan-Ugandan coalition had cut off the supplies of water and electricity to the city of Kinshasa.

Since Monday, 17 August, the Inga hydroelectric power station has been in the hands of the aggressors, who have again cut off the water and electricity supply to Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and to part of Bandundu province.

The social consequences for the population of Kinshasa are very serious. In the hospitals, the incubators in the maternity units have ceased to work and the medical equipment in the emergency and resuscitation wards has been shut down, to mention only two instances among many others.

The Security Council is called upon to note the fact that, by virtue of these inhuman acts perpetrated by the aggressors against the Congolese population, the city of Kinshasa, with its six million inhabitants, is condemned to inevitable genocide sponsored by the Rwandan-Ugandan coalition.

Consequently, my Government invites the Security Council to endorse the concerns of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and requests it:

1. To strongly condemn the invasion of Congolese territory by Rwandan and Ugandan troops;

2. To demand that Rwanda and Uganda withdraw their troops immediately from Congolese territory;

3. To demand that the Rwandan-Ugandan coalition restore the water and electricity supply to Kinshasa and its surroundings;

4. To demand that Rwanda and Uganda put an immediate stop to all acts of extortion against the Congolese population.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) André MWAMBA KAPANGA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative